

# Cassandra

ANIMAL PSYCHIC

CASSANDRA STEPS OUT



Isabelle Bottier  
Hélène Canac



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2021 with funding from  
Kahle/Austin Foundation

<https://archive.org/details/cassandraanimalp0000bott>

CRESSKILL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
CRESSKILL, NJ 07626-2191



# Cassandra

ANIMAL PSYCHIC

#1

CASSANDRA STEPS OUT



Isabelle Bottier  
Hélène Canac

Graphic Universe™ • Minneapolis

A huge thank-you to Estelle and Isabelle for this project, which fits me 100 percent! It's such a pleasure to work with you! Thanks also for my Choupi for encouraging me during the creation of this volume and to Agnes for making Juliet's bedroom so wonderfully beautiful. Victor, Daphne, Martin, this album is for you . . . once you can read!

—H.C.

A big thank-you to Estelle for her kindness and to Hélène for creating such a lovely Cassandra. And a big treat to the real Dolly, who continues to live in the heart of her master.

—I.B.

Story by Isabelle Bottier  
Illustrations by Hélène Canac  
Coloring by Drac

First American edition published in 2019 by Graphic Universe™

Published by arrangement with Steinkis Groupe

Cassandra prend son envol © 2017 by Jungle

Translation by Norwyn MacTire

English translation copyright © 2019 by Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.

Graphic Universe™ is a trademark of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.

All US rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., except for the inclusion of brief quotations in an acknowledged review.

Graphic Universe™  
A division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.  
241 First Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55401 USA

For reading levels and more information, look up this title at [www.lernerbooks.com](http://www.lernerbooks.com).

Main body text set in Andy Std 9/10.5.  
Typeface provided by Monotype Typography.

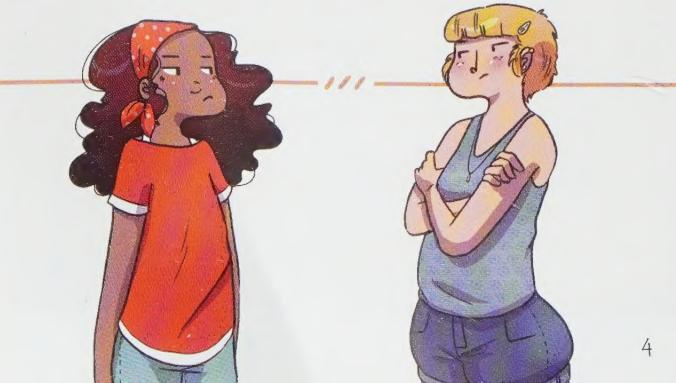
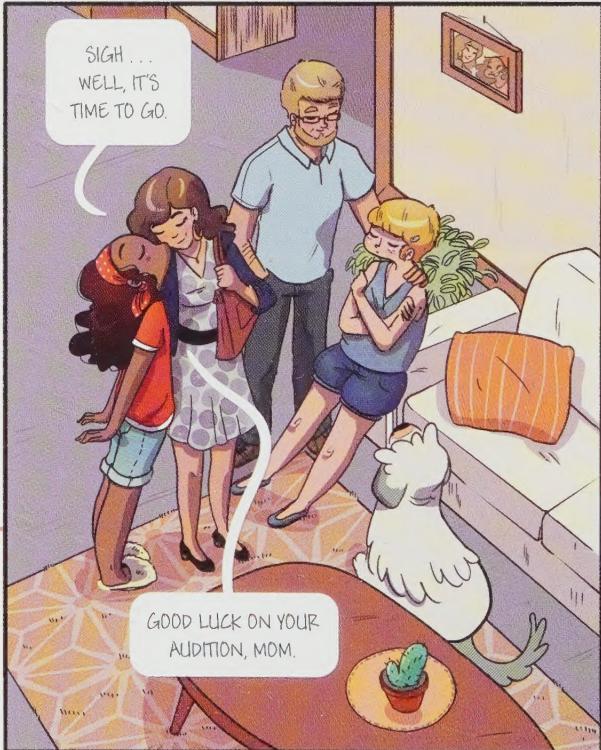
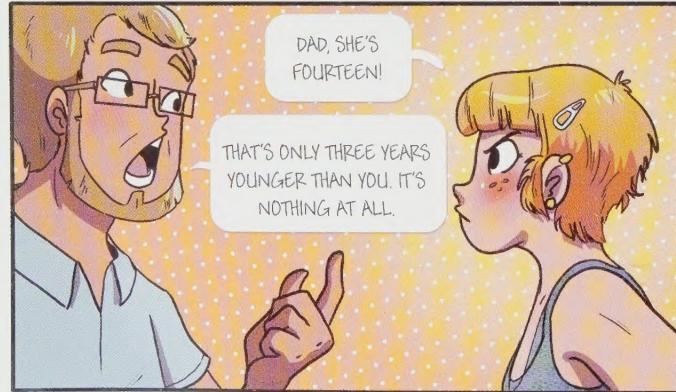
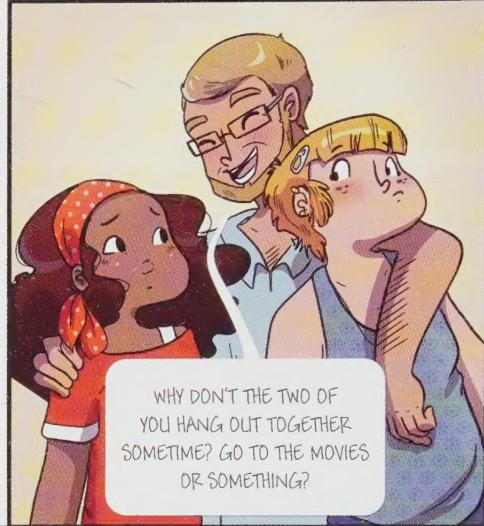
#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Bottier, Isabelle, author. | Canac, Hélène, illustrator. | MacTire, Norwyn, translator.  
Title: Cassandra steps out / Isabelle Bottier ; Hélène Canac ; coloring by Drac ; translation by Norwyn MacTire.  
Other titles: Cassandra prend son envol. French.  
Description: First American edition. | Minneapolis : Graphic Universe, 2019. | Series: Cassandra, animal psychic ; book 1 | Summary: While struggling to cope with major changes in her life, fourteen-year-old Cassandra decides to help others by using her ability to see what animals are thinking, beginning with finding a lost cat.  
Identifiers: LCCN 2018052142 (print) | LCCN 2018056241 (ebook) | ISBN 9781541561106 (eb pdf) | ISBN 9781541543973 (lb : alk. paper) | ISBN 9781541572836 (pb : alk. paper)  
Subjects: LCSH: Graphic novels. | CYAC: Graphic novels. | Psychic ability—Fiction. | Human-animal communication—Fiction. | Change (Psychology)—Fiction. | Family life—Fiction.  
Classification: LCC PZ7.7.B675 (ebook) | LCC PZ7.7.B675 Cas 2019 (print) | DDC 741.5/944—dc23

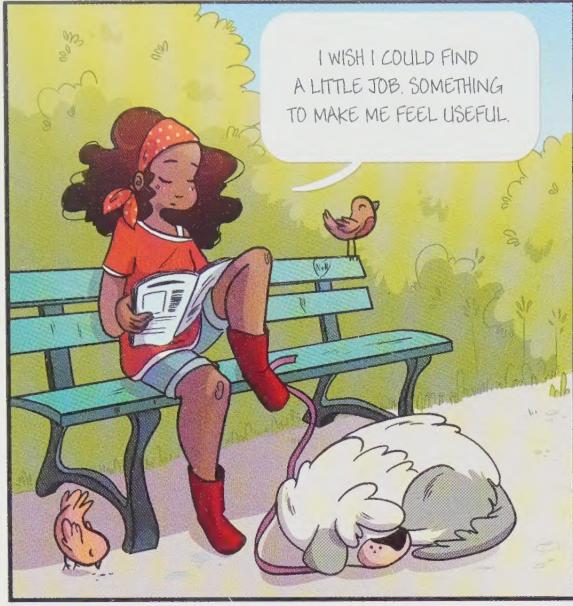
LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2018052142>

Manufactured in the United States of America  
1-45426-39683-2/B/2019

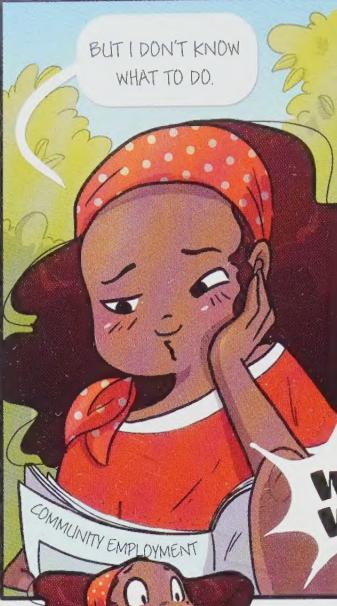








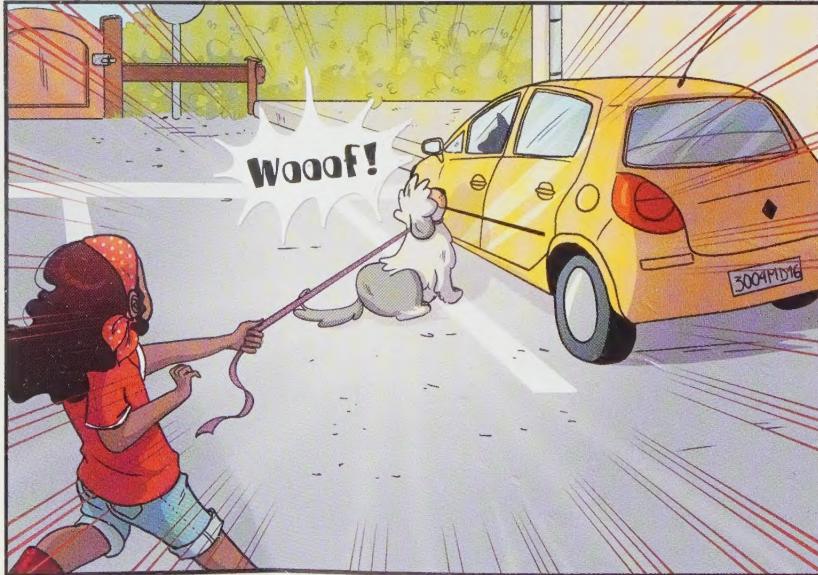
I WISH I COULD FIND  
A LITTLE JOB. SOMETHING  
TO MAKE ME FEEL USEFUL.



BUT I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT TO DO.



WHAT'S GOING ON?



Woof!



OH! WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING ALL ALONE?

UNBELIEVABLE. THERE'S NO OPEN WINDOW! WHO COULD LEAVE THEIR DOG IN THE CAR ON A DAY LIKE TODAY? I BET THEY DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE ON THE AIR-CONDITIONING!

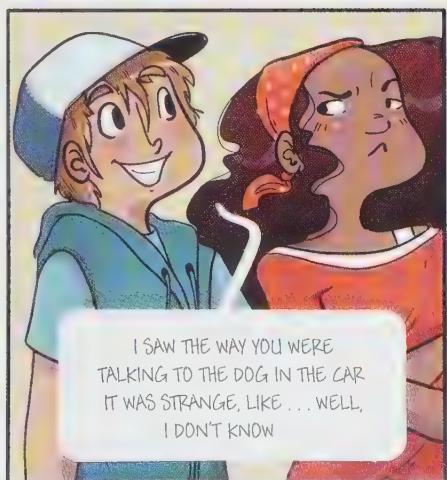
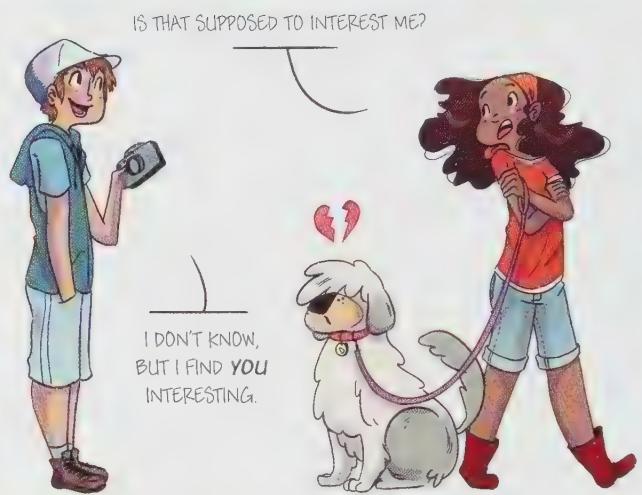
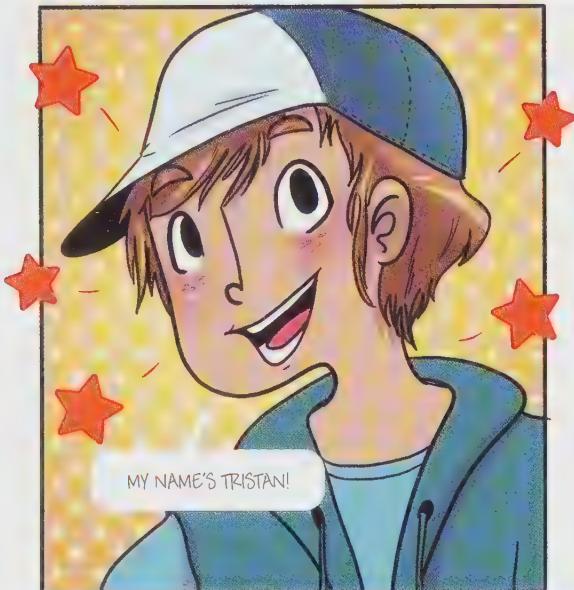
DON'T WORRY, DOLLY  
WE'LL HELP YOUR NEW  
BUDDY

Rrruff











THERE'S NO SHAME IN  
HELPING ANIMALS! WHY DO YOU  
KEEP IT A SECRET?

YOU KNOW, THERE ARE ALWAYS  
PEOPLE WHO DON'T BELIEVE  
IN . . . THESE THINGS.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT  
WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK?  
YOU WOULDN'T BE MAKING  
ANYTHING UP. THEY'RE  
THE DUDS IF THEY DON'T  
BELIEVE YOU!

IF YOU, MY MOM, AND DOLLY  
ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO  
KNOW MY SECRET, THAT'S  
GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.



OH, I NEED TO  
TELL YOU SOMETHING

WOW, YOU LOOK SERIOUS. WHAT,  
ARE YOU GETTING MARRIED?



HAH, VERY FUNNY. ACTUALLY, MY  
DAD PROPOSED THAT I GO  
LIVE WITH HIM IN ENGLAND.



I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE  
GOING TO SAY YES.

I DON'T KNOW YET. BUT IT'S  
AN OPPORTUNITY TO TRY  
SOMETHING NEW. GET A  
CHANGE OF SCENERY.



WELL, ALL HAIL SOPHIE,  
QUEEN OF THE NEW  
EXPERIENCE!

FIRST, HER MAJESTY WANTED TO BE A FIGURE SKATER. THAT LASTED A MONTH. THEN, FOR TWO WEEKS, IT WAS BOXING. THEN JUGGLING.

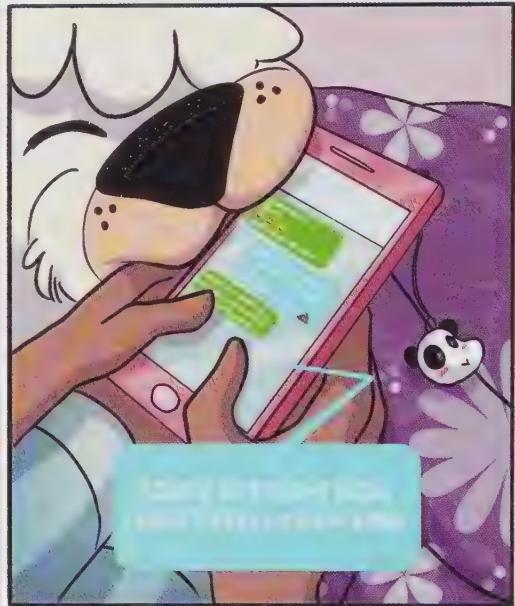
AND THE GUITAR—LET'S TALK ABOUT THE GUITAR! THE ONE COLLECTING DUST IN YOUR ROOM.

YOU GET BORED FAST. IT'LL BE THE SAME WAY WITH ENGLAND.

PLEASE DON'T TAKE IT LIKE THAT! AND IT'S NOT TRUE THAT I CHANGE ALL THE TIME. I'VE HAD THE SAME BEST FRIEND SINCE I WAS SIX.

EXACTLY. IF YOU GO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO OUR FRIENDSHIP?





BUT YOU'RE NOT VERY TALKATIVE TONIGHT. USUALLY YOU HAVE A THOUSAND THINGS TO SAY

I'M JUST A LITTLE TIRED

NOT TOO TIRED FOR YOUR MOTHER! TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON

I DON'T KNOW. IT FEELS LIKE NOTHING IS THE SAME ANYMORE.

AHH. SOUNDS LIKE MY BABY IS GROWING UP



SWEETIE, CHANGE DOESN'T JUST COME ALONG TO BUG YOU. IT HELPS YOU DISCOVER LOTS OF WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT YOURSELF



YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BED?

I WON'T BE OUT HERE LONG.

I'M LOOKING FOR MY LUCKY STAR.

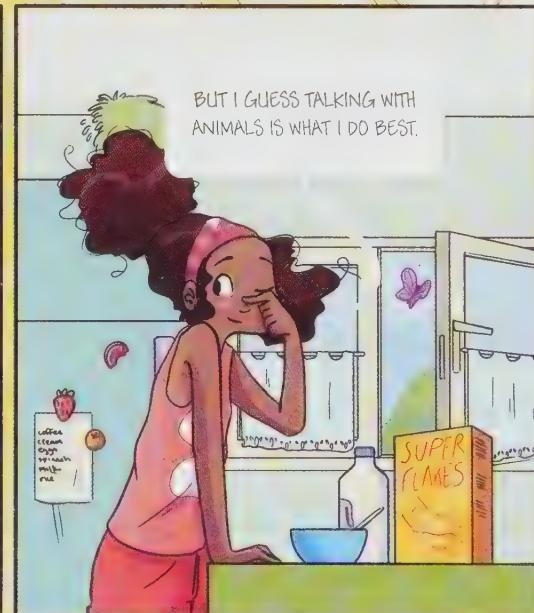


MAYBE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP WILL HELP ME FORGET MY BAD MOOD.



YOU'RE A HEAVY SLEEPER, GIRL.





SO HOW LONG HAVE I HAD A TALENT  
LIKE THIS? WELL, ALWAYS!

THAT'S NO GOOD!  
LITTLE RABBIT HAS A  
TUMMY ACHIE

NOOO! IT'S TOO DARK OUT - THE  
HORSE'S COLD AND SCARED

I NOTICED THAT ANY TIME I MADE CONTACT  
WITH ANIMALS, I FELT A FUNNY SENSATION

AS SOON AS I APPROACHED A CRITTER,  
I HAD CHILLS, AND SOMETIMES I  
RECEIVED TELEPATHIC MESSAGES

AWW, THE POOR BIRD'S LONELY  
HE'D LIKE A GIRLFRIEND

I CAN'T IGNORE THE ANIMALS' MESSAGES.

WOOF!

SOPHIE WAS RIGHT. WHO CARES WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OF ME? IF I CAN DO SOME GOOD BY HELPING ANIMALS, THAT'S ALL THAT COUNTS

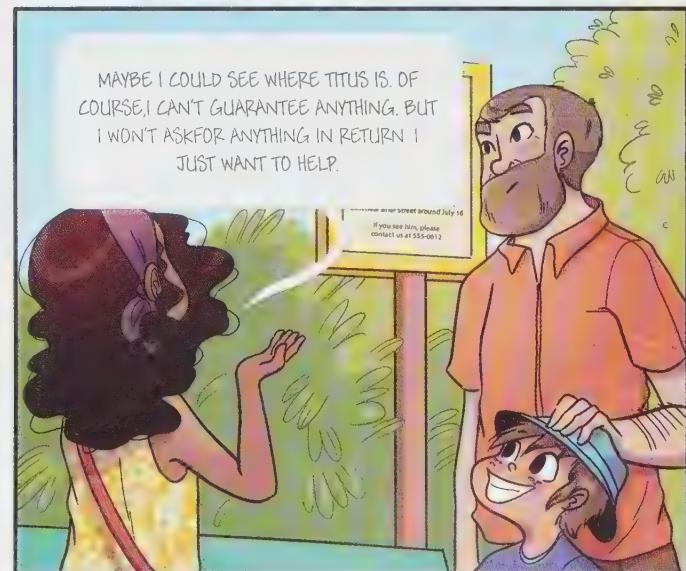
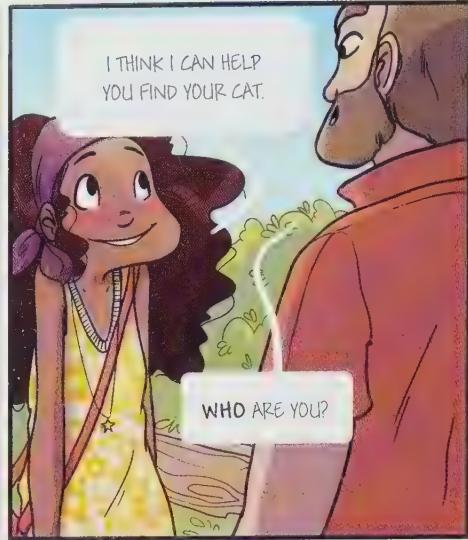
ALTHOUGH I MISS SOPHIE ALREADY, WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT CHANGE IF IT TAKES AWAY SOMEONE YOU LOVE?

THE PARK'S THE PERFECT PLACE TO SPOT AN ANIMAL IN TROUBLE.

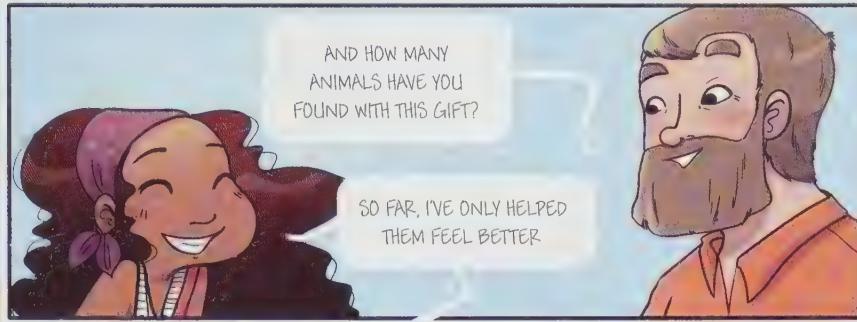
OH, THE BOY WHO LOST HIS CAT IS BACK.

WHAT IF . . ?

LET'S GO. I'M NOT AFRAID TO BE MYSELF ANYMORE.



YEP, SOMEHOW IT'S REAL. PSYCHIC COMMUNICATION, I GUESS YOU'D CALL IT. SOME PEOPLE MAKE WHOLE JOBS OUT OF IT. IT'S SERIOUS STUFF



# Mission: Titus



Facts of his disappearance: Serge, the owner, lives in a house with his son, Dimitri, and his girlfriend, Ariel. Titus often leaves the house to walk through their neighborhood, but he always comes back. He doesn't usually go past the street where he lives.

Serge and Dimitri discovered his disappearance on the morning of July 15.

Did he disappear the previous night or earlier that morning?

Nobody is sure.

## Special Facts (from Dimitri)

- gentle
- picky eater
- ❤️ loves to nap



## How long has the cat been in the family?

One day when they were picnicking, Serge and Dimitri found Titus in a forest. He looked lost, and he wouldn't stop meowing after Dimitri. After making sure the cat didn't belong to anybody, Serge decided to keep it. And Dimitri and Titus hardly ever left each other's side. Dimitri was three years old when they adopted Titus. Now he's five.

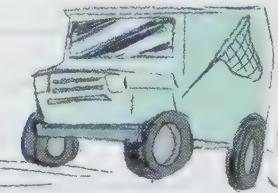
Dimitri was a hyperactive child. He was always restless. Results: He often got distracted, he didn't listen when he was spoken to, and he could get super giddy. But having Titus in his life was a huge change. The cat even helped him focus! THANK YOU, TITUS!!



- Dimitri's dad called the police and the neighborhood shelters.
- He visited all the places that Titus likes to go: their garden and the neighbors' gardens. But no neighbor had found the cat.
- Serge has left his number with animal welfare people and at the pound.

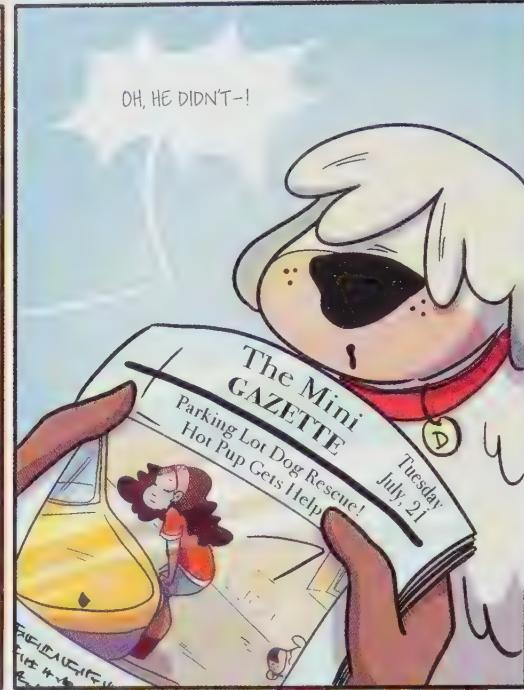
## Tips I Gave Serge

- Call city maintenance people, in case they found a crushed cat somewhere. I hope not!
- Call services that keep registries of animals. If Titus was ever loose in the past and someone brought him to a shelter, he'd be in their files, and Serge and Dimitri might be able to trace him.



Little Forest  
Police Department

OKAY, A GROWN-UP TRUSTS  
ME TO DO THIS. NOW I'VE GOT  
TO BE UP TO THE TASK! I'LL  
NEED TO DO ALL I CAN TO  
FIND TITUS



WOOF!



WHO DOES HE THINK  
HE IS

GRR. VOICE MAIL.

TRISTAN  
Reporter



CASSANDRA!  
COME ON, WE'RE  
WAITING!

DANG IT--DON'T WORRY, TITUS.  
I'LL FIND YOU LATER.











HaHaHaHaHaHa



I KNOW, I KNOW, I'M SORRY! BUT IT'S NOT OFTEN A STORY LIKE THAT COMES OUT OF NOWHERE. PLUS, MY ARTICLE'S ACTUALLY VERY NICE . . .

BOO, YOU'RE NO FUN! HOW 'BOUT, SO THAT YOU'LL FORGIVE ME, I TAKE YOU TO A MOVIE?



WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?

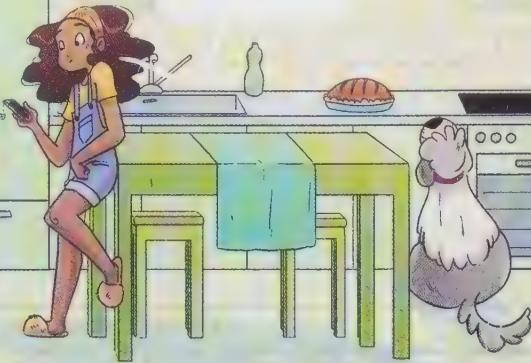
HERE WE ARE! I'M SURE THIS IS IT. I REMEMBER THE BARBED WIRE AT THE EDGES.



AH, THERE'S NO FIGHTING IT! YOU CAN'T STOP BEING NICE.



GUESS I SHOULD TELL SERGE THE LATEST



HI, IT'S CASSANDRA. GOOD NEWS! I MANAGED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH TITUS



HE'S FINE. I'M SURE OF IT. I WAS ABLE TO LOCATE HIM—HE'S IN AN ABANDONED HOUSE.

THE THING IS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING THERE. HE MIGHT BE LOST, BUT . . . HELLO, ARE YOU THERE?



CASSANDRA—THIS MORNING, WE FOUND A RANSOM NOTE IN OUR MAILBOX. MY SON'S CAT IS IN DANGER. YOU'RE A NICE GIRL, BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR PSYCHIC TALK ANYMORE.



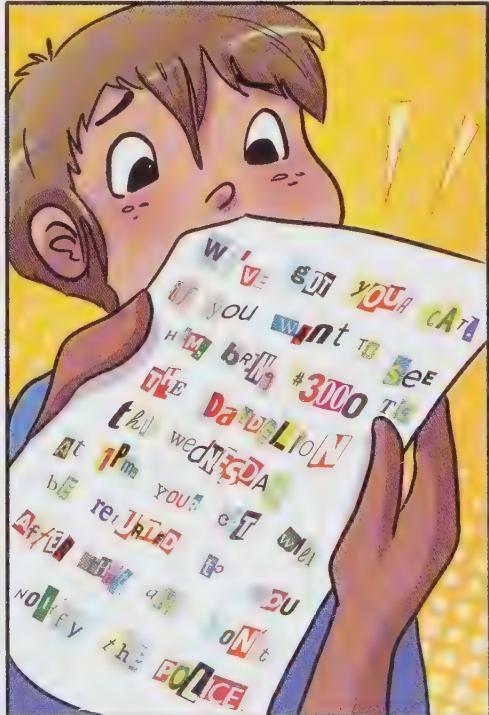
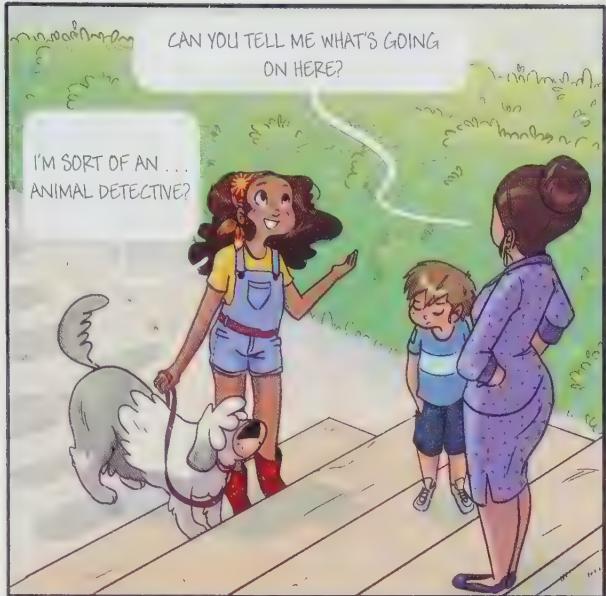
A RANSOM NOTE?  
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

TITUS ISN'T A HOSTAGE. HE'S HAPPY! I KNOW IT. EVEN IF I CAN'T PROVE IT.



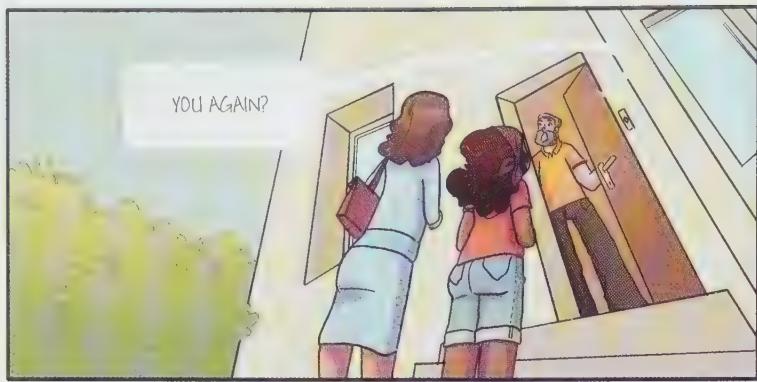




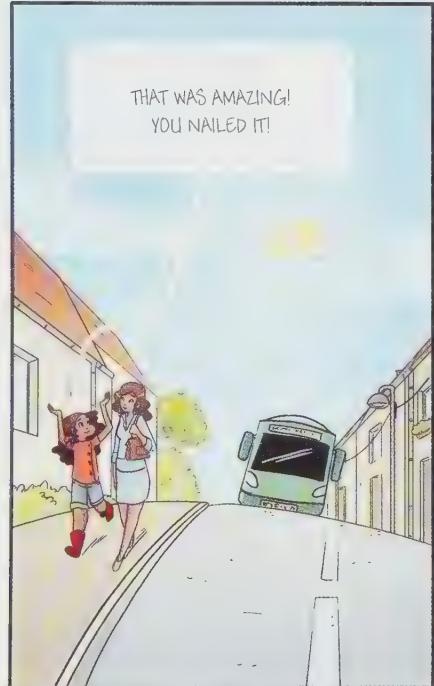


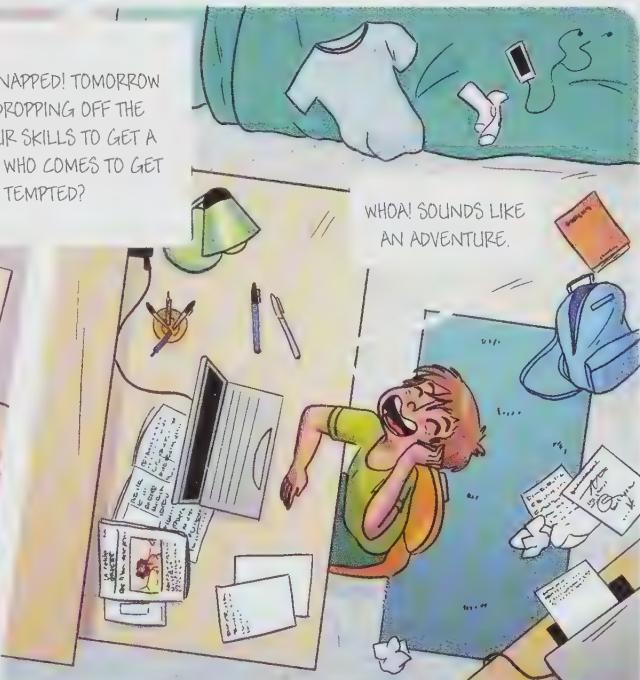






I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF MY DAUGHTER. IT MAY BE HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT SHE HAS A REAL GIFT FOR GETTING IN TOUCH WITH ANIMALS





MMM! THAT'S  
GOOD

WE'VE GOT SOMETHING TO  
TELL YOU.

PLEASE, DON'T SAY YOU'RE  
PREGNANT, BETHANY!

NOPE, NOT THAT. WE'VE  
DECIDED TO LIVE TOGETHER.

WHAT'S GOING TO  
HAPPEN WITH US?

NEVER!

SORRY, I HAVE TO RUN  
TO THE BATHROOM.

ANOTHER CHANGE.  
JUST WHAT I NEEDED.





I'M NOT SURE I HAVE A CHOICE.  
IF I DON'T, MY DAD WILL BE ON  
MY CASE.



JUST ONE THING: NEVER GO IN MY  
ROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION.



YOU ASLEEP, SWEETIE?



HEY, DON'T JUDGE! AND  
YOU CAN ONLY STAY BY  
THE BED AS LONG AS YOU  
DON'T SNORE.



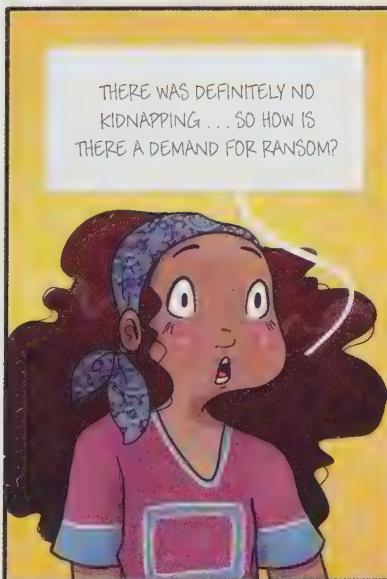
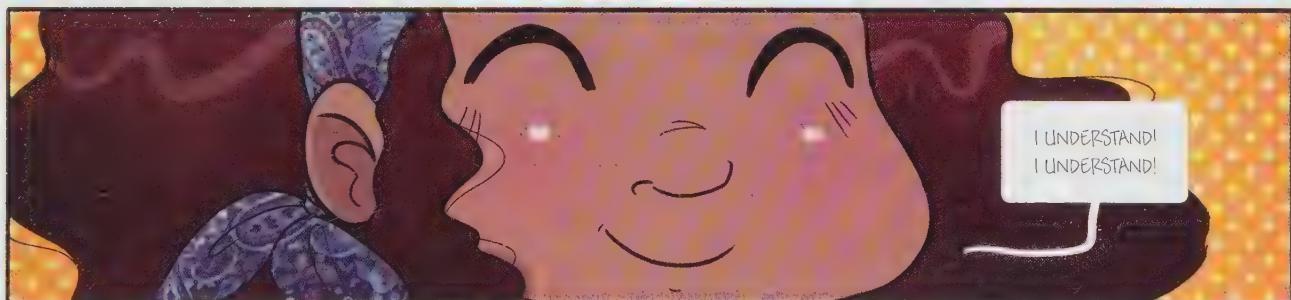
DOES IT BUG YOU THAT WE'RE  
ALL MOVING IN TOGETHER?

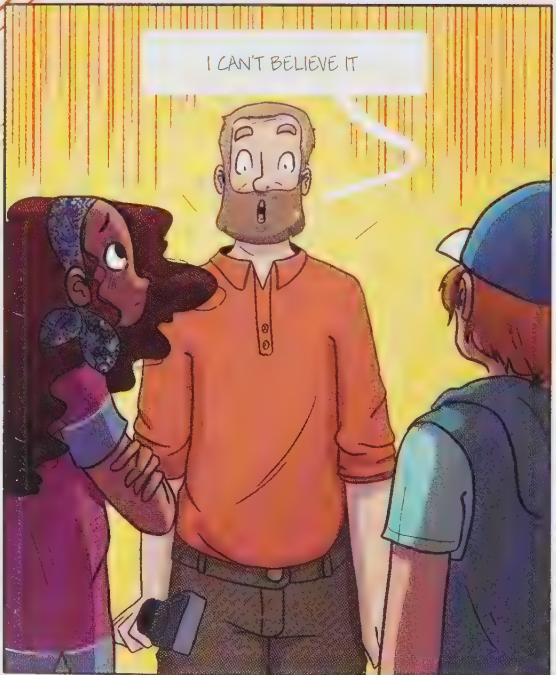
UH, YES. NOTHING'S GOING  
TO BE THE SAME.













BY TAKING MY  
SON'S CAT?

BUT I DIDN'T TAKE IT! THE CAT  
REALLY DISAPPEARED. I WAS  
BLUFFING. I HAD THE IDEA TO MAKE  
SOME MONEY BY MAKING YOU  
THINK IT HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED.  
I KEPT HOPING IT WOULDN'T COME  
BACK IN THE MEANTIME.



THAT'S ENOUGH!

YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES TO RETURN THE MONEY AND LEAVE THIS HOUSE. AFTER THAT, I'M CALLING THE POLICE!



I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU.

BRAVO, LITTLE LADY!  
GREAT WORK.



SO YOU REALLY  
KNOW WHERE  
HE IS?

YES.



BY THE WAY, TITUS DIDN'T  
COME INTO YOUR LIFE BY  
ACCIDENT. HE CHOSE YOU  
LIKE YOU CHOSE HIM



REMEMBER, WHEN YOU WERE SMALLER, YOU WERE RESTLESS. MOVING ALL THE TIME. WELL, TITUS CAME TO HELP YOU. AND TODAY, HE THINKS YOU DON'T NEED HIM ANY LONGER



HE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE ME ANYMORE?



OH, IT'S NOT THAT! IT'S ABOUT HIM. HE'S A WILD CAT AT HEART. HE WANTS TO TRAVEL, TO SEE OTHER THINGS, TO DISCOVER A NEW LIFE



I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN?

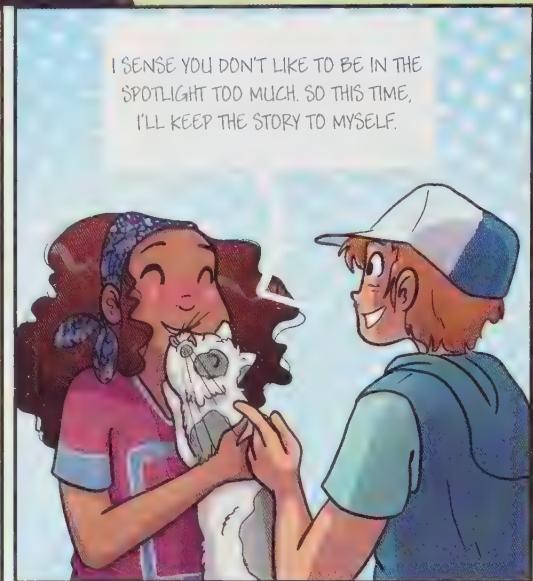


I DON'T KNOW. BUT SOMETIMES LOVING SOMEONE MEANS LETTING THEM LIVE THE LIFE THEY WANT. EVEN IF THAT'S A LITTLE SAD FOR YOU



WHEN YOU LOVE A FRIEND, YOU WANT TO KEEP THEM NEAR YOU. BUT YOU CAN'T LET THAT MAKE YOU SELF-CENTERED. YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO THEM TOO

SNAP! IT'S A WILDLIFE  
CAMERA. IT'S GOING TO MAKE  
A NICE STORY, I THINK.



SUPER?



JULIET AND I ARE ABOUT TO SEE A MOVIE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?



GO AHEAD. I'VE GOT A REHEARSAL.



THANKS.



THIS IS FOR WHEN YOU'RE FAR AWAY FROM ME.



I'LL NEVER BE FAR AWAY FROM YOU!

A PHOTO FRAME. FOR WHAT?



**SECRET NOTEBOOK**

*Miss Dolly*



# Memories, memories . . .



## HOW I MET MISS DOLLY:

When I turned ten, Mom surprised me by taking me to a shelter so we could adopt a dog. ~~I went crazy with joy!~~ I'd been waiting for this day for so long. It had always been my dream to have a dog!

\*\*\*

I couldn't wait to meet the pooch who was going to be my ~~new friend~~. While almost all the puppies greeted me with some happy woofs, Miss Dolly was the only one to completely ignore me. She kept lying in her corner, folded in on herself, sighing long sighs. She looked so sad and miserable that my sensitive heart couldn't resist. ~~THAT'S HOW SHE WON ME OVER, HANDS DOWN!~~



## Who's this?

→ Miss Dolly has a big bobtail.

She's an English shepherd.



→ This bobtailed shepherd is very sociable. She gets along with everyone.

She's a big friend of the kids!

→ She's also a good sport whenever

I put her hair up.

No joke!

→ Her coat requires a lot of

maintenance and grooming.



# Decoding Miss Dolly's behavior



## WARNING!

This is the look of a dog that has made a big mistake. Better act fast!



This look says you have something Miss Dolly wants, like ice cream or a hot dog. Ignore it!



This means she will do anything for a piece of sausage, even busting out her butt-wiggling dance to get your attention!



When a dog sleeps on its side, that means it feels cozy in its space. She can relax and sleep because she's comfortable. Thank you, my Dolly!



# Miss Dolly, the Queen of Goofiness!

This dog lives in the moment. If I catch her doing something naughty, I scold her. But if I'm not sure when the naughtiness happened, I let her be. Miss Dolly wouldn't understand why I'm scolding her because she already would have forgotten what she did.

When Miss Dolly  
was a puppy,  
sometimes she would  
pee inside. To show her  
little by little what was  
good and what was bad,  
if I took her out and she  
did her business, I'd reward  
her with a little treat. Miss Dolly  
understood really quickly:



peeing inside = *we have a problem*

peeing outside = *you're a good dog*

## About the Author

### Isabelle Bottier

Isabelle Bottier is a writer based in Ile-de-France, France. She made her debut writing for French television and quickly began to write on several animated series. She also uses her imagination to create comics for young readers.

## About the Artist

### Hélène Canac

Hélène Canac lives in the sanctuary of comics, Angoulême, France. She has studied graphic design, publishing, and advertising, and she worked in animation after her time as a student. She also works in youth illustration, providing art for novels, games, notebooks . . . and, most recently, comics!



! Coming soon:  
the second Cassandra:  
Animal Psychic graphic novel,  
Out on a Limb!

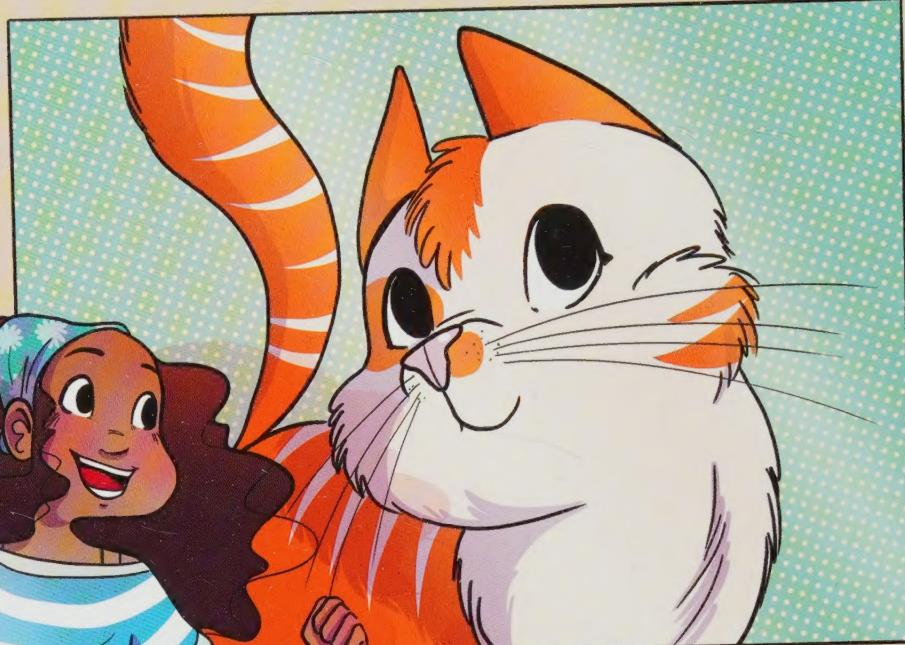






**Cassandra has a gift.** Animals can show her what they're thinking. And after keeping her special talent a secret, Cassandra decides to start helping pets and their people.

The trouble is, other parts of Cassandra's life are changing too. Her mom has a boyfriend she really likes, but his daughter can't stand Cassandra. And Cassandra's best friend is about to leave town. Not even her trusty dog Miss Dolly can make things feel okay. When Cassandra gets on the trail of a lost cat, will she be able to help its owners? Or will her first case be a flop?



## LOST CAT: TITUS

White and orange, with stripes  
Lost around June

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?

**GRAPHIC  
UNIVERSE™**

AN IMPRINT OF  
LERNER PUBLISHING GROUP  
WWW.LERNERBOOKS.COM

ISBN 978-1-5415-4397-3

90000



9 781541 543973

muscle bound  
FOR LONG WEAR

\*T1-ADX-040\*